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THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Yes, Sir. Most certainly."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Sir, may I know whether the capacity of our generating stations would be adequate to meet the large requirement of the number of rural electrification schemes for which we have budgeted? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" At present it may not be. But after the coming into force of the Periyar Hydro Electric Scheme and possibly the Kundha Scheme, it will be sufficient."

3-10 p.m. SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Sir, may I know what steps the Government have taken to push up the work connected with the Periyar Hydro Electric Scheme, and may I have an indication as to when the work on that scheme would be taken up? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Sir, the inauguration of the scheme has taken place only very recently. Our Chief Minister has inaugurated it. The scheme is expected to take about three and a half to four years."

Number of liquor permit-holders.

* 203 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to lay on the table of the House a comparative statement showing district-war the number of liquor permit-holders as on 2nd October 1953 and 2nd October 1954?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" A statement [a] furnishing the information is placed on the table of the House."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Sir, have the Government investigated why there is such a large number of permit-holders in some of the districts when compared with other districts? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" I do not think it is necessary for the Government to investigate it."

SRI A. M. ALLAPICHAI :—" Sir, is it not the policy of the Government to reduce the number of permits and is it not also their policy to completely discourage and see that in course of time no permit is issued? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :— " That is what the Government are trying to do."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Sir, do not the Government hope to wipe off the permit-holders by the gradual reduction in the quantity allowed to them, and is not that the policy of the Government? "

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on page 207 infra.

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An hon. MEMBER :—" Why not wipe out permit-holders ! "

Sri M. ETHIRAJULU :—" May I know Sir, whether any permit has been given to any Government servant? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Yes, Sir, to a few Government servants."

Sri MOHAMED RAZA KHAN :—" May I know the reasons for the great disparity in the number of permits between Coimbatore district and other districts, for example, North Arcot? "

Sri K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR :—" May I know, Sir, why this question is put to the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments? "

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—GOVERNMENT BILL.

THE MADRAS PLANTATIONS AGRICULTURAL INCOME-TAX BILL, 1954 (L.A. BILL NO. 30 OF 1954)—*cont.*

Mr. CHAIRMAN :—" We will now take up the clause by clause consideration of the Plantations Bill. The hon. Member Dr. V. K. John will move his amendment to Clause 2."

Caluse 2.

* Dr. V. K. JOHN :—" Sir, I move the amendment standing in my name, namely,—

' For *sub-clause (a)* substitute *the following* :—

" ' *agricultural income ' means agricultural income as defined for the purposes of the enactments relating to Indian Income-tax.*" ' "

Sir, agricultural income as defined in the Bill is wrong. It should have been defined in this manner, that is, ' " agricultural income " means agricultural income as defined for the purposes of the enactments relating to Indian Income-tax.' Sir, you will find that the Constitution of India enables a State only to impose taxes on agricultural income. This is provided for in item 46 of the State List in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The definition given to agricultural income in Article 366 of the Constitution of India is—

' " Agricultural income " means agricultural income as defined for the purposes of the enactments relating to Indian Income-tax.'

Why not simply incorporate this definition in the Bill? The Government of India may change or they may not change the enactment relating to Indian Income-tax. The definition in the Indian Income-tax Act for assessment of agricultural income may be one thing to-day and it may be amended later. We need not amend our Act because the definition of agricultural income is given in Article 366 of the Constitution of India. I do not know whether the Government are aware of the definition of agricultural